

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 49 are pending in the present Application. Claims 19 – 24, 26, 33 – 36, and 48 have been canceled without prejudice with respect to Applicants rights to file a continuation application thereon. The remaining claims, Claims 1 – 18, 25, 27 – 32, 37 – 47, and 49, have been allowed. Reconsideration and allowance of this case is respectfully requested in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 18, 25, 27 – 32, 37 – 47, and 49 are allowed.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 19 – 24, 26, 33, 35 – 36, and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2005/0163026 to Oshima, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,380,547 to Gonzalez, et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection at least for the reasons set forth in the prior responses. Applicants maintain that the claims are non-obvious and that there is no proper motivation to combine the cases. However, to facilitate allowance of the present case, Claims 19 – 24, 26, 33, 35 – 36, and 48 have been cancelled without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

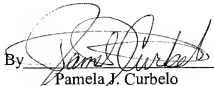
Claim 34 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over Oshima et al., modified by Gonzalez et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,532,998 to Durham. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection at least for the reasons set forth in the prior responses. Applicants maintain that the claim is non-obvious and that there is no proper motivation to combine the cases. However, to facilitate allowance of the present case, Claim 34 has been cancelled without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

It is believed that all of the claims remaining in the present case have been allowed. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 07-0893.

Respectfully submitted,

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